

U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office of Emergency Management

# National Level Exercise 2018 Fall, 2017 Update



Office of  
Emergency Management



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# Agenda

- National Level Exercise 2018 Overview
- DOI Exercise Planning Information
  - Building Block Events
  - Interagency Exercise Schedule
  - Bureau and Office Initial Planning Elements
- Questions
- Closing

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# NLE-18 Overview

## Background

National Level Exercise (NLE) 2018 provides an opportunity to design, develop, and execute a whole community exercise that tests and evaluates our plans, policies, and procedures as well as our core capabilities for a catastrophic hurricane incident response and recovery, as required by law.

## Scenario

A major hurricane is projected to make landfall in the mid-Atlantic region with models predicting severe loss of life and substantial damage to residences, businesses, and critical infrastructure.

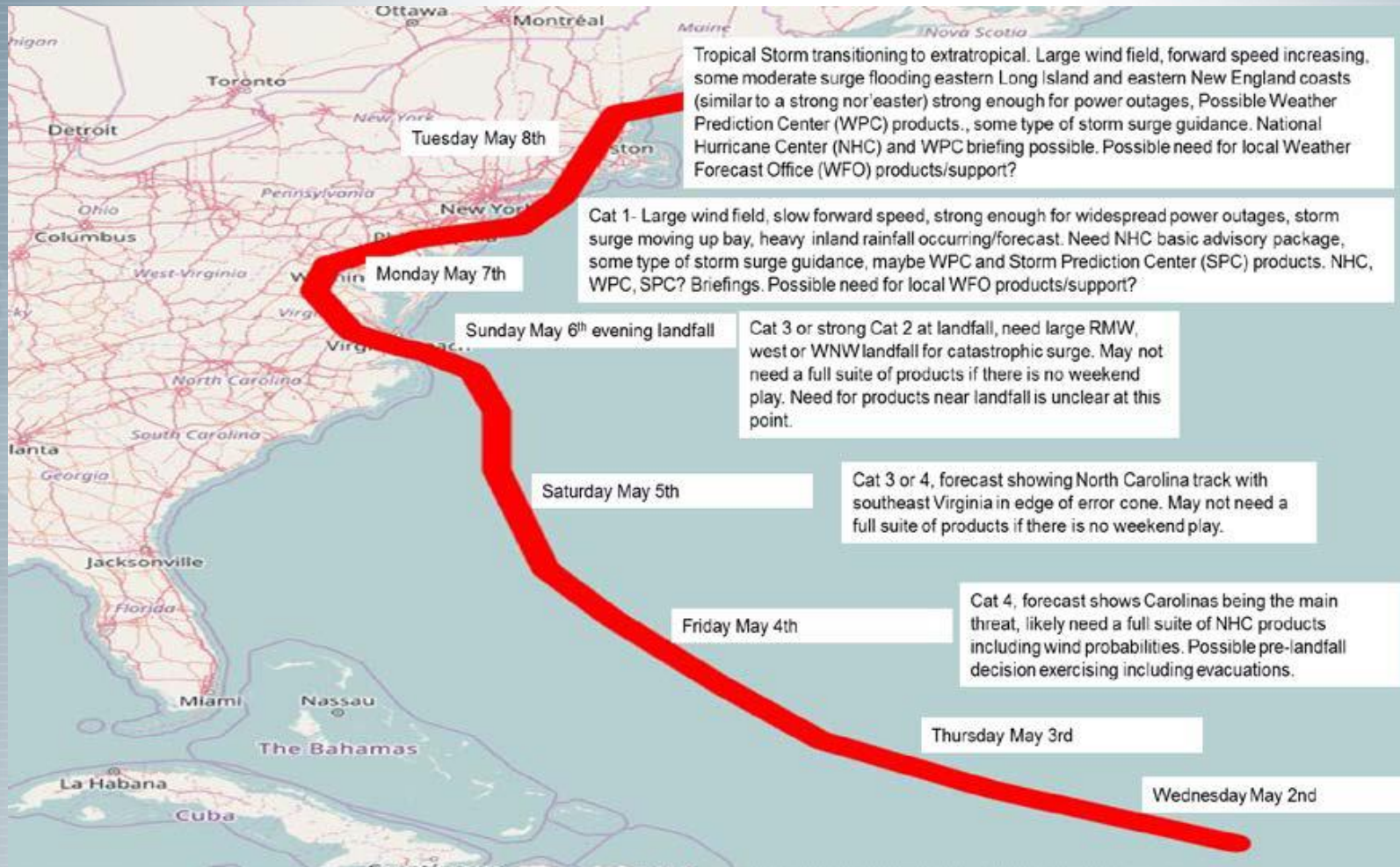
The projected path and forecast of the major hurricane is expected to cause significant coastal and inland flooding, major storm surge, and strong winds that result in long-duration power outages and interdependent impacts to other sectors such as transportation, fuel, water and wastewater, and public health in the mid-Atlantic area, including the National Capital Region.

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# Scenario: Storm Track and Landfall Date



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# OEM Major Themes and Objectives

1. Examine the ability of the Office of the Secretary and Policy, Management and Budget (PMB) to take and communicate protective actions before, and account for and report employee status after a major hurricane impacting the National Capital Region.
2. Demonstrate the ability of DOI to conduct command and control and to coordinate the continuation of essential functions from continuity sites.
3. Assess the effectiveness of the DOI Baseline All-Hazards Operations Plan to employ the tools, resources and structures of DOI emergency management to include the following specific sub-objectives:
  - a) Examine the ability of OEM to alert, roster and deploy surge and support resources (in the form of the IST, SILC, and IMAT) to support DOI emergency operations (some deployment may be simulated)
  - b) Examine the effectiveness of the EMC and SE-EMC to coordinate DOI emergency management actions, information sharing and resource deployments in order to inform senior level decision-making.

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# OEM Major Themes and Objectives

4. Demonstrate the ability of DOI to provide a common operating picture and succinct situational awareness throughout the preparation and response phases of the exercise.
5. Examine the process for senior leadership to evaluate information, coordinate decisions and issue policy direction during severe and catastrophic events.

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# Plans, Policies and Procedures

The following plans, policies and procedures will be reviewed/utilized during NLE 2018:

- Departmental Manual Chapter 900
- *DOI All-Hazards Baseline Operations Plan*
- *DOI Continuity of Operations Plan*
- Office of the Secretary and Bureau Employee Accountability Plans

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# Building Block Events: Crisis Communications TTX

**Crisis Communications TTX:** A TTX for bureau/office communications professionals to provide direction on the Department's crisis comms priorities.

Proposed Participants: Office of Communications, Communications Representatives from bureaus/offices, OEM, OHR, BSEE HR.

Planned Outcomes: Standardized approach to crisis communications through a DOI Crisis Communications strategy, schedule for information collection and dissemination, Department-wide understanding of the process.

**Proposed Date Range: Fall 2017**



# Building Block Events: Employee Accountability TTX

**Employee Accountability TTX:** Through 1-2 meetings and then a 3-4 hour session in the fall of 2017, walk through employee accountability processes, procedures, and plans.

Proposed Participants: Emergency Coordinators, and HR Representatives from bureaus/offices, OEM, OHR, BSEE HR.

Planned Outcomes: Standardized template for data collection, schedule for data compilation, Department-wide understanding of the process.

**Proposed Date Range: Fall 2017**



# Building Block Events: OEM TTX

**OEM TTX:** A 2 hour discussion of OEM's roles, responsibilities and plans in the event of a large scale emergency in the NCR.

Proposed Participants: OEM staff

Proposed Outcomes: Review OEM's employee accountability and family emergency plans. Discuss specific roles, responsibilities and expectations of OEM staff related to staffing and implementation of OEM's plans.

**Proposed Date Range: December 2017 – January 2018**



# Building Block Events: Continuity Activation TTX

**Continuity Activation TTX:** A 1-2 hour discussion with senior leadership to determine thresholds and recommendations for continuity activations outside of COGCON system.

Proposed Participants: Members of senior COGCON teleconference: Chief of Staff, Continuity Coordinator, OEM continuity staff, ICAT senior team members

Planned Outcomes: recommendations for activation thresholds for DOI Continuity Sites outside COGCON system, including bureau sites, for various scenarios.

**Proposed Date Range: Winter 2018**

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# Building Block Events: EMC TTX

**EMC TTX:** A 1.5 hour discussion – based exercise to review EM Coordinator roles and responsibilities in a given scenario and examine how the EMC functions on an incident specific basis.

Proposed Participants: Emergency Coordinators and Alternates

Planned Outcomes: Review and improve EMC-MAC facilitation guide; Clarify EMC and Emergency Coordinator roles and responsibilities for each IOC activation level; elevate issues for resolution by the SE-EMC

**Proposed Date: February 7, 2018**



# Building Block Events: SE-EMC TTX

**SE-EMC TTX:** A 1 hour discussion and briefing on issues that would need to be elevated to the SE-EMC based on the EMC incident specific TTX.

Proposed Participants: SE-EMC and EMC

Planned Outcomes: Discuss and resolve issues elevated from the EMC; Clarify roles and responsibilities of the SE-EMC vs. other senior executives in strategic incident management.

**Proposed Date: March 7, 2018**



# Building Block Events: DOI Business Process TTX

**SE-EMC TTX:** A discussion among bureau personnel in finance, budget, acquisition, and emergency management to facilitate application of the agreements in the *DOI All Hazards Business Management Handbook*.

Proposed Participants: EMC, OEM, PFM, POB, PAM, IBC, and bureau/office representatives from finance, budget, and acquisition

Planned Outcomes: Discuss and resolve issues related to business process delays in providing assistance within DOI following an incident.

**Proposed Date: March, 2018**



# Building Block Event: Senior Leadership TTX

**Senior Political Leadership TTX:** A 1-2 hour discussion and briefing to examine the priorities and strategies of senior leadership during significant incidents and discuss strategic communication and information management strategies and systems.

Proposed Participants: Secretary's senior leadership team

Planned Outcomes: Discuss roles, responsibilities and expectations of senior leadership during large events or incidents; Examine information sharing and communication requirements.

**Proposed Date: May 8, 2018**

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# Building Block Event: Field-Level Planning Workshop

**Field-Level Planning Workshop:** A half-day to day discussion and briefing session focused on opportunities for region/field-level offices to participate in the NLE 2018 exercises, especially during the April 30-May 11 participation window.

Proposed Participants: Regional and field-level planners

Planned Outcomes: A planning event that directly connects the interagency exercise planning staff with regional and field planners. This is intended to be an offer of assistance to design their exercise play, not a requirement.

**Proposed Date Range: Fall 2017**



# Interagency Exercise Schedule

Date	Level of Play
April 30-May 7	Interior Operations Center: Information Management National Response Coordination Center (NRCC): Senior Interagency Liaison Cadre (SILC) Deployment
May 2	Emergency Management Council meeting
May 5	“Simulated” COOP deployment: COGCON 2
May 6	Scenario Storm Landfall
May 7	COGCON 2 operations at Site Charlie NRCC at alternate location: SILC deployment

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# Interagency Exercise Schedule

Date	Level of Play
May 8	<p>COGCON 1 operations at Site Charlie begin at 8:00AM</p> <p>Site Warm-up (Echo): organizations staff Echo as appropriate to their needs</p> <p>NRCC: SILC deployment</p>
May 9-11	<p>Simulation cell remains at Site Charlie</p> <p>NRCC: SILC deployment</p>

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# Proposed Planning and Events Timeline

Meetings & Events	Date
Crisis Communications TTX	TBD: Fall 2017
Mid-Term Planning Mtg	November 2017
Employee Accountability TTX	TBD: Fall 2017
OEM TTX	TBD: Winter 2018
Continuity TTX	TBD: Winter 2018
EMC TTX	February 7, 2018
MSEL Meeting	March 2018
SE-EMC TTX	March 7, 2018
Business Process TTX	TBD: March, 2018
Final Planning Mtg	April 2018
Senior Leaders TTX	May 8, 2018
Exercise Conduct	April – May 2018

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# NLE 2018 Questions



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